

Detailed Analysis

1. The theme of alienation

- With the opening of the novel, we find that Jude's alienation and admiration are closely related. Jude doesn't like the place where he lives, namely Marygreen. Here we come to see that the source of alienation lies within Jude himself. That is to say, it is Jude doesn't want to belong to Marygreen and this is called the inner source of alienation. This inner source of alienation is closely related to Jude's ambition which is to become an intellectual. He feels that he cannot fulfill his intellectual ambition in his native village.
- Jude's alienation has an outer source as well. Jude has feelings that he is unwanted. This fact is expressed by his aunt Drusilla, who says that it is better for Jude to have died with his parents. Therefore, there arises within Jude a bitter sense of being unwanted.
- He works for a farmer Troutham, and his job is to scare off the birds, but he gives the birds the chance to eat as much as they want. The feelings he has is that both he and the birds have the common ground of being unwanted. Jude is beaten, and dismissed by Troutham, and this intensifies his sense of alienation.

2. The theme of ambition

- **Jude's growing self- awareness crystallizes into his ambition which in turn, comes to be embodied in Christminster the town where he can enter the university. He does everything he can to go to Christminster. He starts a course of the road reading in order to prepare himself for the university in Christminster. He takes a trade as a stonemason, and then he is exhilarated because he begins to secure the financial means of going to Christminster.**
- **Jude's view of Christminster as a center of thought reveals what he seeks in Christminster.**

3. The theme of love

- Love could be identified as a central theme in the novel.
- Jude's ambition receives a severe blow when he meets Arabella Donn a sensuous girl.
- The relation between Jude and Arabella grow and as a result, Jude's ambition is completely neglected. Jude himself comes to have a different view of life. Before meeting Arabella, he sees that the life means learning, but after meeting her, he comes to see that real life is embodied in relation with a woman. So we can see that Jude is alienated from his ambition after the rise of his relation with Arabella.

4. The theme of failure

- **He realizes the bitter fact that there are two impossible ways for fulfilling his ambition. The first way is to win a scholarship, but this is impossible for a young man reading on his own. The second way is to pay, but he has to wait for at least fifteen years in order to collect the needed money. So, Jude has a profound sense of failure.**
- **This sense of failure intensifies when he receives the dream – shattering letter from the college master. The college master tells Jude that " You will have a much better chance of success in life by remaining in your own sphere and sticking to your trade than by adopting any other course".**